

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-21 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 11 being the independent claims.

In the specification, the title is sought to be amended to correct a typographical error. In the drawings, Figure 6C is sought to be amended to switch reference numbers 677 and 678 to correspond with the discussion found in paragraph [0058] of the specification as originally filed. Annotated and replacement drawing sheets showing Figure 6C are submitted herewith. These changes introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objection to the Drawings

The current Office Action states on page 2, section 2, that the drawings are objected to “because the arrow indicating common substrate 678 in Figure 6C and disclosed in paragraph [0058] is pointing at the core rather than at the substrate.” In order to address this objection, Figure 6C is sought to be amended to switch reference numbers 677 and 678 such that reference number 677 points to the core and reference number 678 points to the substrate as discussed in paragraph [0058] of the originally filed specification. These changes add no new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action states on page 3 (section 5) that claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. Publ. No. 2004/0143734 A1 to Buer *et al.* (hereinafter, “Buer”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Office Action states that the features of claim 1 are disclosed in FIG. 4, FIG. 1F, and paragraph [0079] of Buer. Applicants, however, do not see where Buer teaches or suggests “each SERDES core having one or more SERDES lanes, each SERDES lane having a receive channel and a transmit channel, wherein the transmit channel of each SERDES lane is phase-locked with a corresponding receive channel,” as recited in claim 1. FIG. 4 and paragraph [0079] do not teach or suggest this. FIG. 4 and paragraph [0079] appear to disclose a Gigabit security processor, which may contain SERDES cores. However, Buer does not go into any detail regarding transmit and receive channels and the phase-locking of those channels. FIG. 1F does not exist in the Buer publication.

The Office Action also states that the features of claim 4 are disclosed in FIG. 4 of Buer, with element 410 representing a common SERDES lane. Applicants disagree with this assertion. Element 410 appears to represent a Gigabit security processor that may contain SERDES cores. It does not represent a SERDES lane as defined in the present specification.

Similarly, the Office Action states that the features of claim 5 are disclosed in FIG. 11 of Buer, with FIG. 11 showing a transmit channel as part of a first SERDES lane of a common SERDES core and a corresponding receive channel as part of a second SERDES lane of a common SERDES core. Applicants disagree with this assertion. Buer does not go into any detail regarding lanes and channels of SERDES cores and therefore does not teach or suggest the features of claim 5.

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Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Buer for at least the reasons provided above. Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, and further for their own respective features. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-5 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

The stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason; that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sheet 1 of 1
ANNOTATED SHEET

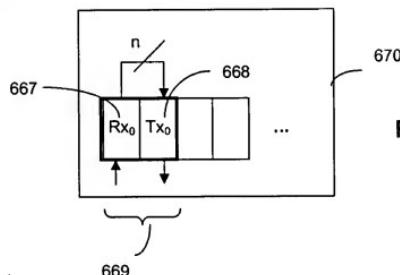


FIG. 6A

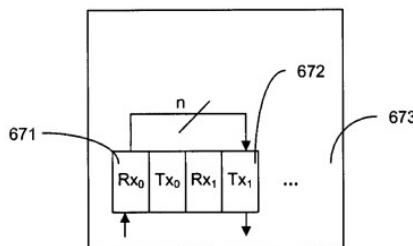


FIG. 6B

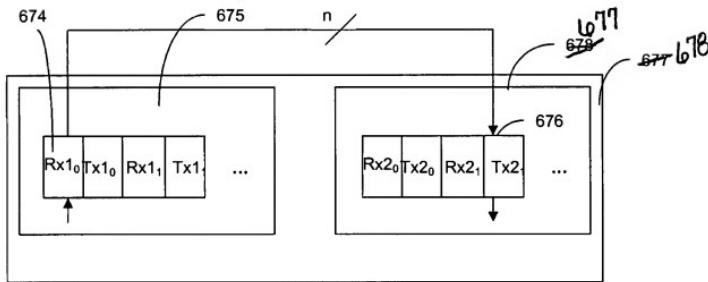


FIG. 6C